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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 118303 TOSEC 010103

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE:MB
APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE
EB - MR. KATZ (DRAFT)
C - MR. BLACKWILL(DRAFT)
H - MR. JENKINS(DRAFT)
S/S -REWOODS
---------- 114314
O 210042Z MAY 75 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118303 TOSEC 010103

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UR, US, EEWT

SUBJECT:BRIEFING MEMORANDUM - CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS
ON MFN-CREDITS/EMIGRATION

FROM ARMITAGE AND ENDERS

1. SUMMARY: SECRETARY SIMON APPARENTLY BELIEVES THAT HE HAS A COMMITMENT TO THE SOVIETS THAT USG PRESENT SPECIFIC NEW PROPOSALS TO THE CONGRESS "BY MID-YEAR" WITH A VIEW TO AMENDING LEGISLATION TO TITLE IV OF THE TRADE ACT AND THAT INTER-AGENCY STAFF WORK SHOULD NOW BE INSTITUTED TOWARD THAT END. YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH HIM THIS WEEKEND. END SUMMARY.

2. AT MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD ON MAY 14 SECRETARY SIMON (SUPPORTED BY DUNN OF CIEP) TOOK THE POSITION THAT PREPARATIONS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN NOW FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH CONGRESS ON BEST APPROACH TO AMENDMENT OF
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TITLE IV OF TRADE ACT TO PERMIT MFN AND CREDITS TO SOVIET

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UNION. AT MEETING OF EAST-WEST TRADE POLICY WORKING GROUP MAY 20 ASSISTANT SECRETARY PARSKY (TREASURY) FOLLOWED UP ON THIS TACK, PROPOSING THAT AN INTER-AGENCY GROUP (TREASURY, COMMERCE, STATE, EXIMBANK AND OTHERS) BE CONSTITUTED TO PREPARE STAFF STUDY OR OPTIONAL APPROACHES

TO PROBLEM FOR REVIEW AND DECISION AT MEETING OF EAST-WEST FOREIGN TRADE BOARD TO BE HELD IN SIMON'S OFFICE JUNE 4.

3. STATE REPRESENTATIVES AT BOTH MEETINGS TOOK POSITION THAT TIME WAS NOT PROPITIOUS FOR SUCH A MOVE AND TODAY WE MADE IT CLEAR THAT STATE THOUGHT EXERCISE PARSKY WAS RECOMMENDING WAS PREMATURE AND DID NOT BELIEVE ANY DRAFTING EXERCISE SHOULD BE INITIATED AT THIS TIME. PARSKY PERSISTED THAT "WITH APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY KISSINGER, SECRETARY SIMON OFFICIALLY INFORMED PATOLICHEV THAT WE WOULD MOVE ON PROBLEM OF MFN AND CREDIT LEGISLATION BY MID-YEAR" AND THAT WORK SHOULD BE BEGUN TO MEET THAT COMMITMENT OF USG. HE DID FINALLY AGREE THAT NOTHING SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN UNTIL SECRETARY SIMON HAD HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

4. ALL OUR CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORTERS ON THIS ISSUE ARE AGREED THAT WE MUST AWAIT SOME IMPROVEMENT IN US-SOVIET RELATIONS (E.G., SALT, MID-EAST, OR UNILATERAL SOVIET IMPROVEMENT IN EMIGRATION POLICY) BEFORE LAUNCHING NEW EFFORT FOR REMEDIAL TRADE LEGISLATION. PREMATURE INITIATIVE WOULD BE DECISIVELY DEFEATED.

5. CLEARED: EB, KATZ, C, BLACKWILL, H, JENKINS. INGERSOLL

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